

series of black spots. Hind wing deep purplish red-brown; the underside whitish, the costal and terminal areas suffused and irrorated with brown; a discoidal lunule and sinuous postmedial line.

Hab. NEW ZEALAND, Middle I., Orepuki (*Dunlop*), 1 ♀ type. *Exp.* 56 mm.

LVII.—*Descriptions of new Snakes in the Collection of the British Museum.* By G. A. BOULENGER, F.R.S.

Nothopsis affinis.

Rostral twice as broad as deep, not visible from above, its upper angle truncate and narrowly separating the nasals; a pair of internasals, followed by a pair of præfrontals, the latter separated from the frontal by three series of small scales; frontal large, cordiform, a little broader than long, with a median cleft in its anterior half; parietals nearly twice as long as the frontal and separated from it by one or two series of granular scales; two small supraoculars; temporal scales small, granular, keeled; two series of small scales between the eye and the upper labials, which are ten in number; a pair of very small chin-shields. Scales in 27 rows, obtusely keeled, laterals much narrower than dorsals. Ventrals 162; anal entire; subcaudals 98. Greyish yellow above, with a median series of rhomboidal or quadrangular black spots and a lateral series of \wedge -shaped black markings more or less confluent into a zigzag band; head black above; upper lip and lower parts yellowish, dotted with black.

Total length 320 mm.; tail 100.

A single female specimen from Salidero, N.W. Ecuador, 350 feet.

This species is very nearly related to *N. rugosa* of Cope, to which I had referred the specimen when it was received in 1901. But the British Museum having now acquired an example which I take to be a true *N. rugosa*, from Carriablanca, Costa Rica, I find the Ecuador snake to differ in the feebly keeled scales, the presence of a pair of præfrontal shields, the larger frontal and parietals, and the more feebly angulate ventral shields.

PHRYDOPS, gen. nov.

Maxillary teeth 22, small, equal; mandibular teeth subequal. Head distinct from neck, moderately elongate, with

vertical sides and projecting edge to the supraocular shield; eye large, with round pupil; a single nasal; no loreal. Body elongate, slightly compressed; scales smooth, with apical pits, in 17 rows; ventrals rounded. Tail rather long; subcaudals in two rows.

This genus appears to be related to *Synchalinus*, Cope, which is only known to me from the description.

Phrydops melas.

Snout subtruncate, scarcely longer than the eye, with sharp canthus and vertical loreal region. Rostral broader than deep, scarcely visible from above; nasal large, in contact with the præocular; internasals shorter than the præfrontals; frontal nearly twice and a half as long as broad, a little narrower than the supraocular, longer than its distance from the end of the snout, shorter than the parietals; one præocular, not extending to the upper surface of the head; two postoculars, both in contact with the parietal, which in front is very narrowly separated from the fifth upper labial; temporals 1+2; seven upper labials, third and fourth entering the eye; four lower labials in contact with the anterior chin-shields, which are shorter than the posterior. Scales in 17 rows. Ventrals 135; anal divided; subcaudals 69. Black above and beneath, head and anterior part of body minutely speckled with brown.

Total length 380 mm.; tail 105.

A single female specimen from Carriblanco, Costa Rica, collected by Mr. C. H. Lankester.

Rhadinaea Steinbachi.

Rostral broader than deep, just visible from above; internasals broader than long, shorter than the præfrontals; frontal once and two thirds to nearly twice as long as broad, as long as or a little longer than its distance from the end of the snout, shorter than the parietals; loreal as long as deep or a little deeper than long; one præ- and two postoculars; temporals 1+2; eight upper labials, third, fourth, and fifth entering the eye; five or six lower labials in contact with the anterior chin-shields, which are as long as the posterior. Scales in 15 rows. Ventrals 142; anal divided; subcaudals 67-69. Grey above; anterior part of body with a broad dark brown or black vertebral band and a narrower lateral band; head dark brown or black above, with an oblique white spot in front of the eye, another behind the eye, and a third behind the parietals; upper lip and lower parts white.

Total length 540 mm. ; tail 150.

Two specimens, female and young, from the Province Sara, Department Santa Cruz de la Sierra, collected by Hr. J. Steinbach.

Liophis oligolepis.

Eye large. Rostral broader than deep, visible from above; internasals a little broader than long, shorter than the præfrontals; frontal twice as long as broad, much longer than its distance from the end of the snout, a little shorter than the parietals; loreal deeper than long; one præ- and two postoculars; temporals 1+2; eight upper labials, fourth and fifth entering the eye; four lower labials in contact with the anterior chin-shields, which are a little longer than the posterior. Scales in 15 rows. Ventrals 152; anal divided; subcaudals 61. Olive-brown above, the scales dark-edged; upper lip and lower parts white; a black streak behind the eye, above the posterior upper labials; a black streak along each side of the tail.

Total length 320 mm. ; tail 73.

A single female specimen from Igapé-Assu, Pará, Brazil, collected by M. A. Robert.

Atractus ventrimaculatus.

Snout obtuse. Rostral small, nearly as deep as broad, just visible from above; internasals very small; præfrontals as long as broad; frontal as broad as long or a little longer than broad, as long as its distance from the end of the snout, much shorter than the parietals; loreal twice to twice and a half as long as deep; two postoculars; temporals 1+2; eight upper labials (exceptionally seven), fourth and fifth (or third and fourth) entering the eye; four lower labials in contact with the single pair of chin-shields, which are moderately large and separated from the symphysial. Scales in 15 rows. Ventrals 145-157 in males, 158-159 in females; anal entire; subcaudals 19-20 in males, 14-15 in females. Olive to blackish brown above, uniform or with dark and light spots; a black vertebral stripe sometimes present; lower parts whitish, much speckled and spotted with black.

Total length 430 mm. ; tail 30.

Several specimens from Merida (1630 m.) and Fuqueros (2500 m.), Venezuela, collected by Señor Briceño.

Calamaria Gimlettii.

Rostral as deep as broad, the portion visible from above as long as its distance from the frontal, which is as broad as long and three times as broad as the supraocular; parietals much longer than the frontal; no præocular; one postocular; diameter of the eye two thirds its distance from the mouth; four upper labials, second and third entering the eye; first pair of lower labials forming a suture with its fellow behind the symphysial; both pairs of chin-shields in contact with each other. Scales in 13 rows. Ventrals 239; anal entire; subcaudals 11. Brown above, finely speckled with yellowish; scales of the two outer rows brown in front and white behind; a pair of yellowish spots on the upper surface of the tail, near its base; upper lip and lower parts white; a brown spot at the outer end of each ventral shield; a brown longitudinal line between the subcaudal shields.

Total length 265 mm.; tail 8.

A single female specimen from Kelantan, Malay Peninsula, collected by Dr. Gimlette.

Elaps princeps.

Eye measuring three fifths to two thirds its distance from the mouth. Rostral broader than deep; frontal broader than the supraocular, once and one third to once and a half as long as broad, shorter than its distance from the end of the snout; parietals longer than the frontal, as long as their distance from the internasals; one præ- and two postoculars; temporals 1 + 2; posterior nasal separated from the præocular by the præfrontal; seven upper labials, third much longer than fourth and in contact with the præfrontal, third and fourth entering the eye; four lower labials in contact with the anterior chin-shields, which are shorter than the posterior. Scales in 15 rows. Ventrals 220-228; anal divided; subcaudals 19-22 (3 to 5 of the anterior entire). Body with black annuli disposed in threes, subequal in width and separated by wider yellow interspaces; 7 or 8 sets of annuli, separated by red interspaces, which are about twice as broad as the yellow ones; the yellow and red scales brown behind, the former tipped with black; snout yellow, spotted with black; a narrow black cross-band traversing the eyes, across third upper labials, supraoculars, and frontal; back of the head, including posterior part of frontal and supraoculars, red, the shields edged with brown.

Total length 1220 mm.; tail 65.

Four specimens from the Province Sara, Department Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, collected by Hr. J. Steinbach.